

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Orton et al., U.S. patent 6,146,027 in view of Jawahara et al., U.S. patent 6,256,620.

Claims 1 and 5 have been amended to more clearly state the invention.

Orton et al., U.S. patent 6,146,027 discloses a computer system having a processor, a display, and an object-oriented application interface between a user input device such as a cursor placement device and an object-oriented application program. The cursor placement device has a user button for generating a device event signal for controlling a pointer graphic on the display. The object-oriented application program includes a plurality of objects with logic and data for performing particular functions. An interactor object is responsive to a device event signal to change the display from displaying an icon to a thumbnail display. An interactable object is instantiated in an application address space, and includes data and methods for manipulating the data. The interactor object is instantiated in a system address space and is responsive to the device event signal for calling a predetermined one of the interactable object's methods to change the data therein. The system can also include apparatus for playing a script, thereby executing selected data changing methods in specified data objects, and a means for generating a presentation of data in a data model object. Column 28, starting at line 6 states: Controls use a command to determine the current state of the object or data. Following appropriate interactions with the user, the control updates the command's parameters and causes it to be executed. For example, a checkbox sets a

command parameter to on or off and then executes the command to change a data value. Controls display a label to indicate its function. This label is a graphical object containing a graphic or a text string. As the control changes state, the label automatically adjusts its appearance, without requiring the developer to write additional code. These states include active/inactive, enabled/disabled, and selected/unselected. At column 28, starting at line 50 further states: At function block 1540, processing occurs when a control is enabled/disabled. When the control is enabled or disabled, it tells the label by calling the SetEnabled method. The control then indicates its appearance needs updating by calling Invalidate with an argument indicating the portion of the screen that needs to be redrawn. At column 21, lines 1-7 states: A control is the user interface to one or more commands. The control displays information about a command, such as its name and whether it is active in the current context. Following appropriate user interaction, the control causes a command to be executed. Under the heading Disabled, at column 27, starting at line 61 states: Control labels are dimmed when the control does not apply in a particular context.

Jawahara et al., U.S. patent 6,256,620 discloses a system for monitoring information access. The system provides an access monitoring application to an information accessing system. The access monitoring application monitors information accessed by the information accessing system. Data is received from the information accessing system which identifies the information accessed by the information accessing system. The information accessing system may use a web browser application to access information stored in web pages and the access monitoring

application may monitor web pages accessed by the web browser application. The system terminates the monitoring of information access if the information accessing system stops accessing information. Also a system is provided that selectively displays an assistance icon to an individual. The assistance icon provides the individual with an opportunity to request assistance from an agent or other individual associated with the information being viewed by the individual. By monitoring an individual's access to information, the source of the information is able to determine whether to offer help to the individual. If the individual is offered help, and requests help, the prior information accessed by the individual can be used to select an agent to assist the individual.

Applicants respectfully submit that the total teachings of both Orton et al. and Jawahara et al. provide no suggestion of the method, computer system or computer program product for providing dynamic assistance for disabled user interface resources as taught by Applicants and claimed in independent claims 1, 8 and 9.

There is no hint of any providing dynamic assistance for disabled user interface resources as taught and claimed by Applicants in the cited Orton et al. and Jawahara et al. references. A combination of all the teachings of the references of record would not achieve the claimed invention as recited by claims 1, 8 and 9.

Orton et al. provide no suggestion of any means for providing dynamic assistance for disabled user interface resources, nor of any changing a state of identified code from disabled to disabled with assistance; providing assistance text to explain why control is disabled; or providing code for correcting a condition for disabling control. The prior art fails to disclose or suggest any of the recited steps of the claimed

method. There is neither an express nor an implied suggestion in cited Orton et al. and Jawahara et al. which would have motivated the artisan to modify the Orton et al. reference in a manner which would result in that which is claimed. Consequently, it is submitted that these claims 1, 8 and 9 are patentable.

Dependent claims 2-7 and 10-12 further define the invention of patentable claims 1 and 9, and are likewise patentable.

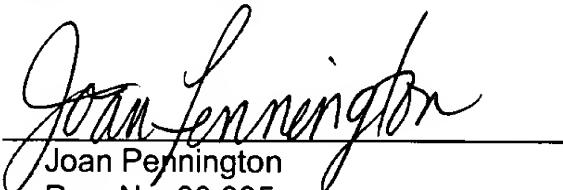
Applicants have reviewed all the art of record, and respectfully submit that the claimed invention is patentable over all the art of record, including the references not relied upon by the Examiner for the rejection of the pending claims.

It is believed that the present application is now in condition for allowance and allowance of each of the pending claims 1-12 is respectfully requested. Prompt and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner upon considering this amendment should find that a telephone interview would be helpful in expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is respectfully urged to call the applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, and 5 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for providing dynamic assistance for disabled user interface resources comprising the steps of:
identifying code for disabling controls;
changing a state of identified code from disabled to disabled with assistance; responsive to said identified code, providing assistance text to explain why control is disabled; and
providing code for correcting a condition for disabling control.
5. (Amended) A method for providing dynamic assistance for disabled user interface resources as recited in claim 4 includes the steps of identifying a user selection of said adjustment button; and utilizing said code for correcting said condition for disabling control, and executing an action on eligible items.